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To: Examiner Easthom	From: Joseph R. Keating
Fax: 703-872-9306	Date: January 13, 2004
Phone: 703-308-3306	Pages: 3
Re: 09/708,817 36856.394	CC:

•Comments:

Examiner Easthom,

Please find attached hereto the following documents for the above-identified application:

- 1) RCE;
- 2) Credit Card Form PTO-2038 in the amount of \$770.00;

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph R. Keating
for
Keating & Bennett, LLP
(Registration Number 37,368)

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)	Application Number	09/708,817
	Filing Date	November 8, 2000
	First Named Inventor	Masashi MORIKAMI
	Group Art Unit	2832
	Examiner Name	K. Easthom
	Attorney Docket Number	36856.394

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the Patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000) which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

a. ☒ Previously submitted

- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s) reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on December 3, 2003
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
 iii. ☐ Other

b. ☐ Enclosed

- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
 ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 iv. ☐ Other

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2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103© for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
 b. ☐ Other

1. **Fees**

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 (e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353

- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 iii. ☐ Other

b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed

c. ☒ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Joseph R. Keating	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37,368
Signature		Date	January 13, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Sonia V. McVean
Signature	
Date	January 13, 2004

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231